



MEETING OF THE

WATER POLICY TASK FORCE

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Ventura County Transportation Commission: Keith Millhouse, Moorpark

**Thursday, April 14, 2005
10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**SCAG Offices
818 W. 7th Street, 12th Floor
Riverside B Conference Room
Los Angeles, California 90017
213. 236.1800**

Agenda Enclosed

If members of the public wish to review the attachments or have any questions on any of the agenda items, please contact Dan Griset at 213.236.1895 (griset@scag.ca.gov) or visit the Task Force website at <http://www.scag.ca.gov/wptf/index.htm>.

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AGENDA
WATER POLICY TASK FORCE
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

April 14, 2005

10:00 a.m.

SCAG Offices: Riverside B Meeting Room

Page #

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Members of the public desiring to speak on an agenda item or another item, but within the purview of this Task Force, must notify staff to the Task Force prior to the meeting. At the discretion of the Chair public comments may be limited to three minutes.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve the minutes of the February 10, 2005 meeting. (Minutes will be available at the meeting. They will also be posted on the Task Force website prior to the meeting,)

4.0 PRESENTATION ITEMS FOR THE TASK FORCE

4.1 Ventura County's Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project

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The Matilija Ecosystem Restoration Project is one of the most interesting environmental projects of its kind in the region. Along with largest proposed dam removal in the country, the Project proposes aims to restore watershed habitat, hydrology and recreational amenities without undermining water stewardship practices or increasing public safety risks. Two speakers will describe the Project: Jeff Pratt, Director of Ventura County's Watershed Protection District; and Susan Hughes, a Legislative Analyst with the County.

4.2 Survey of Stormwater Management Costs

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Brian Currier, Research Engineer with the Office of Water Programs at California State University at Sacramento, will present the findings of a recently released survey of costs associated with local agency management of stormwater and compliance with state discharge permits. The study was commissioned by the State Water Resources Control Board. Task Force member Prof. Bo Cutter will also offer comments on the study (see his memo in Attachment 1).

4.3 Water Supplies and the Growth Outlook for the San Bernardino Valley and San Geronio Pass Watersheds

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In a continuation of Task Force reviews of future growth and water supply planning around the region, a panel of speakers will discuss these issues as they relate to selected growth areas of the Inland Empire: the San Bernardino Valley and San Geronio Pass Watersheds.

Water Supplies and the Growth Outlook for the San Bernardino Valley and San Gorgonio Pass Watersheds (cont.)

The panel will include Bob Reiter (General Manager, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District), Stacey Aldstadt (Deputy General Manager, San Bernardino City Water Department), Doug Headrick (Water System Manager, City of Redlands), Steve Stockton (General Manager, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency), Joe Zoba (General Manager, Yucaipa Valley Water District), Chuck Butcher (General Manager, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District) and Andy Schlange (General Manager, San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority).

4.4 Regional Comprehensive Plan and Water Issues

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Staff will brief the Task Force on a recent water issues presentation to the Regional Comprehensive Plan Task Force.

5.0 CHAIR'S REPORT

6.0 STAFF REPORT

7.0 TASK FORCE INFORMATION SHARING

SCAG is a co-sponsor of a water quality workshop on May 19 at the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management at UC Santa Barbara. The topic is *The TMDL Program: Challenges and Solutions*. The workshop begins at 9 a.m. and concludes at 4:30 p.m. There is no fee for attendance. For reservations contact Prof. Arturo Keller at keller@bren.ucsb.edu. (See the details of the workshop in the agenda attachment.)

8.0 COMMENT PERIOD

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Task Force is scheduled for Thursday, June 9, 2005.

MEMORANDUM TO THE WATER POLICY TASK FORCE

April 14, 2005

TO: *Members of the Water Policy Task Force*

FROM: *Daniel E. Griset, Sr. Regional Planner, X895, griset@scag.ca.gov*

SUBJECT: *Ventura County's Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project*

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend that the Energy and Environment Committee urge the Regional Council to adopt the draft resolution supporting the Matilija Ecosystem Restoration Project, a resolution calling for supplemental funding from state and federal sources.

BACKGROUND:

The Matilija Ecosystem Restoration Project is one of the most interesting environmental projects of its kind in the country. This uniqueness owes to the proposed removal of the Matilija Dam (originally constructed to a height of 198 feet), the largest dam demolition project proposed in the nation. Along with the dam removal the Project aims to restore the watershed hydrology and habitat that was critically compromised by the construction of the dam in 1947.

Two speakers who are intimately familiar with the Project will explain its features and challenges to the Task Force: Jeff Pratt, Director of Ventura County's Watershed Protection District (WPD); and Susan Hughes, a Legislative Analyst with the County.

Working in conjunction with the Bureau of Reclamation and the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE), the WPD, as owner of Matilija Dam, is the sponsor of this \$130 million project. Community and water agency support for this project has developed in recent years as public understanding of watershed issues has grown. Initially, however, the nature of the project sparked opposition from various Ventura County water agencies and flood control advocates. That opposition has diminished as the mitigation planning process has resolved concerns and fears. The Executive Summary of the ACE Study on the Project's feasibility is attached to the agenda. (The URL for the Project and the ACE Study is: <http://www.matilijadam.org>.)

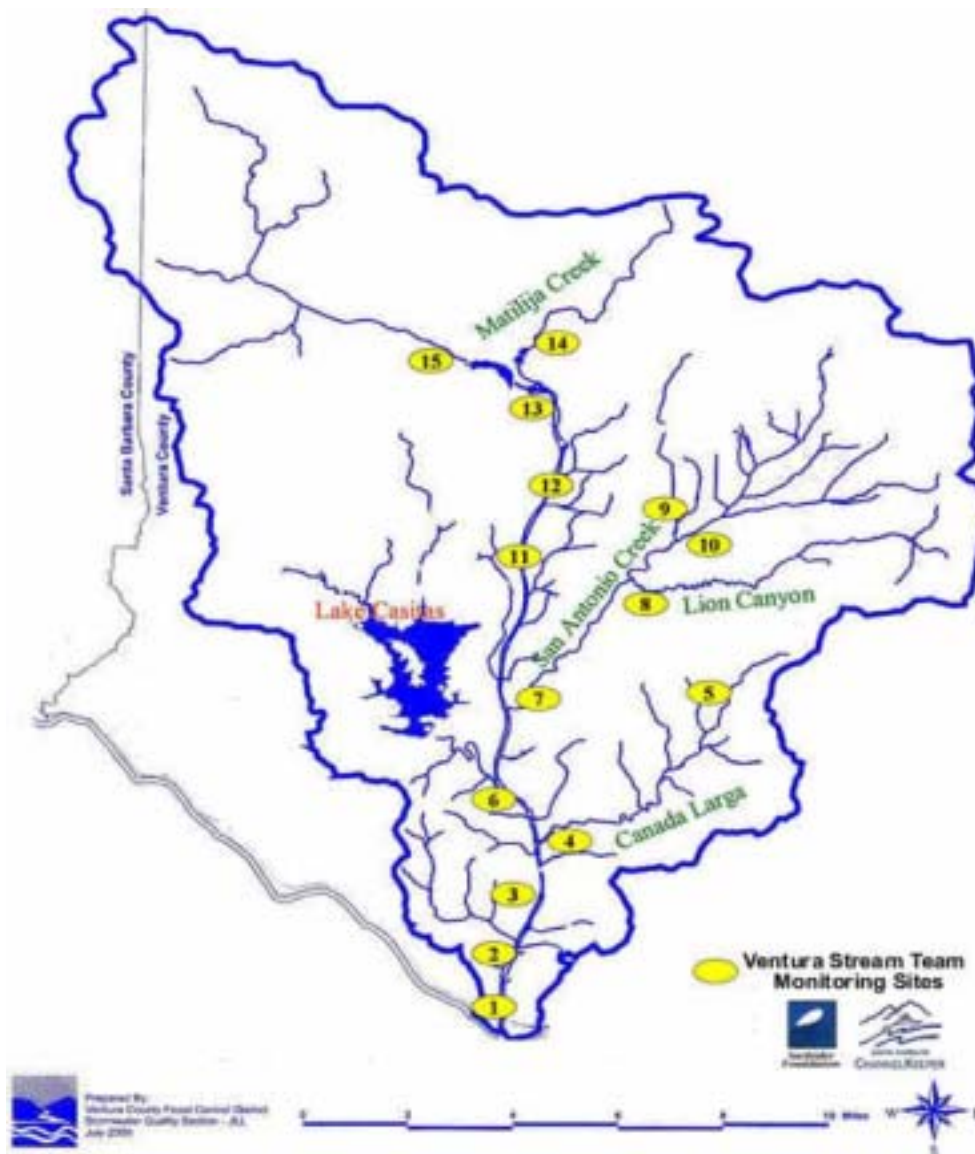
General public support for the project has grown as stakeholders became increasingly aware of the nearly complete obsolescence and impairments of the Dam, a facility that was constructed originally to create storage for agricultural needs and to a lesser extent provide flood control benefits. Currently, however, the Dam reservoir has accumulated nearly 6 million cubic years of debris and sediment, reducing its water storage by more than 93% of its original designed capacity (from about 7,000 acre feet to now about 400 acre feet). With current trends the Dam's reservoir is expected to lose its entire storage capacity and any

of the few remaining flood control benefits by 2020. The drainage area behind the Dam is the Matilija Creek watershed with its 55 square miles, some 15 miles upstream from the Pacific Ocean and a tributary to the Ventura River.

The objectives of this restoration project include habitat restoration (improving aquatic and terrestrial habitat to benefit fish and wildlife species), hydrological restoration (restoring the river's hydrologic and sediment transport conditions to pre-dam conditions) and recreational amenities (returning the dam property to the US Forest Service to become an outdoor education and recreation site).

Though the County has approved the project's environmental studies and nearly \$400,000 in federal funding has been approved, the next hurdle is funding for the project's design and engineering. The budget for this key implementation phase is about \$6.5 million. The overall financial strategy for the project anticipates that local agencies will fund 35% of the project costs.

Map of the Ventura River Watershed:



MEMORANDUM TO THE WATER POLICY TASK FORCE

April 14, 2005

TO: *Members of the Water Policy Task Force*

FROM: *Daniel E. Griset, Sr. Regional Planner, X895, griset@scag.ca.gov*

SUBJECT: *Survey of Stormwater Management Costs*

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive for future policy consideration.

BACKGROUND:

The State Water Resources Control Board funded this project under the title “Survey of Costs to Develop, Implement, Maintain and Monitor Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Storm Water Management Programs and Description of Alternatives for Control of Stormwater Quality in Los Angeles County.” The Board’s interest in this issue is a result of previous studies (Brown and Caldwell’s for Caltrans and USC’s for the Coalition for Practical Regulation) that estimated stormwater compliance costs in excess of \$50 billion. These estimates, driven by the expectation that stormwater discharges will require advanced treatment, have provoked strong disagreement within the water quality community in Los Angeles County.

The survey report approaches its goals by looking at both documented local stormwater management program costs and at alternative approaches to stormwater quality control.

Local Program Costs

The program costs were developed with reviews of five cities and one metropolitan area. These included the City of Encinitas, City of Fremont, City of Santa Clarita, City of Corona, City of Sacramento and the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area. These cities were selected because of their unique water features and the contrasts these features would give the Survey.

Among the cities the annual costs per household ranged from \$29 to \$46. In the Fresno-Clovis area the annual household cost was \$18. The difference owes in some measure to the level of program integration among the cities in the Fresno-Clovis area.

Stormwater Quality

The Survey then studied the effect of two different strategies for improving stormwater quality: source control and runoff reduction. The runoff reduction strategy considered makes use of traditional

infiltration and evapotranspiration Best Management Practices (BMPs). The study developed two scenarios for source controls: one of these considers source control BMPs as being sufficient to comply with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board's regulations; the other involves treatment with the use of wetlands and infiltration basins. These two scenarios do not include advanced treatment costs. However, the Survey suggests that were advanced treatment of stormwater runoff needed, it would be much more limited (and less costly than previously estimated by the other two studies) because of the other beneficial effects of the measures used in the two scenarios to reduce runoff and control sources.

The Survey estimated that the current annual cost per household for stormwater quality efforts is \$18. With the additional efforts identified in the two scenarios (alternatives to advanced treatment) the additional annual costs per household ranged between \$27 to \$71.

Another aspect of stormwater management costs is the impact of TMDL mandates. These affect all runoff, not only stormwater runoff. As such, the Survey noted that for two of the Los Angeles Basin TMDLs there would be additional annual household costs: the Ballona Creek Metals TMDL compliance could cost as much as \$75, while the Los Angeles River Trash TMDL compliance could exceed \$140.

The Survey observed that local management efforts remain very limited. And without wide use of source controls and runoff management, the ultimate cost for complying with stormwater discharge rules will rise to higher levels, but short of those cost levels associated with the full use of advanced treatment.

MEMORANDUM TO THE WATER POLICY TASK FORCE

April 14, 2005

TO: *Members of the Water Policy Task Force*

FROM: *Daniel E. Griset, Sr. Regional Planner, X895, griset@scag.ca.gov*

SUBJECT: *Water Supplies and the Growth Outlook for the San Bernardino Valley and San Gorgonio Pass Watersheds*

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive for future policy consideration.

BACKGROUND:

In a continuation of Task Force reviews of future growth and water supply planning around the SCAG region and beyond the Metropolitan Water District's service area, a selection of speakers will discuss these issues within the context of the San Bernardino Valley and San Gorgonio Pass Watersheds.

The San Bernardino Valley panel will include Bob Reiter (General Manager, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District), Stacey Aldstadt (Deputy General Manager, San Bernardino City Water Department), and Doug Headrick (Water System Manager, City of Redlands).

The San Gorgonio Pass Watershed panel will include Steve Stockton (General Manager, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency), Joe Zoba (General Manager, Yucaipa Valley Water District), Chuck Butcher (General Manager, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District) and Andy Schlange (General Manager, San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority).

Growth forecasts for the Valley and Pass areas indicate substantial growth over the next 25 years. Population will grow from 588,000 to 915,000; housing units will increase from 187,000 to nearly 322,000; jobs will rise from 213,000 to more than 222,000. Under current state law a large housing development, prior to the issuance of building permits, will be required to provide assurances that future water supplies are adequate to serve not only that development but also existing consumers for the next 20 years. This requirement links water supplies with the delivery of much needed housing in the SCAG region.

San Bernardino Valley: The overall outlook for the Valley will be discussed by **Bob Reiter**, General Manager of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBVMWD). This District is a State Water Contractor with an entitlement to water for the State Water Project. In addition to managing groundwater supplies, SBVMWD works with the retail water agencies in the Valley to provide imported water supplies to the Valley.

The District was formed in 1954 to plan long-range water supply for the San Bernardino Valley. Its enabling special district act includes a broad range of powers to provide water, as well as wastewater, stormwater disposal, recreation, and fire protection services.

SBVMWD covers about 325 square miles in southwestern San Bernardino County and has a population of about 600,000. It spans the eastern two-thirds of the San Bernardino Valley, the Crafton Hills, and a portion of the Yucaipa Valley, and includes the cities and communities of San Bernardino, Colton, Loma Linda, Redlands, Rialto, Bloomington, Highland, Grand Terrace, and Yucaipa.

Stacey Aldstadt, Deputy General Manager of the San Bernardino Water Department, will discuss the City's growth plans and its related strategy for delivering needed water supplies. The Department relies exclusively on groundwater production with 60 wells located in its 45 square mile service area. This system has more than 40,000 service connections served through 551 miles of water mains. All groundwater pumped from the basin is disinfected and is delivered to 18 different pressure zones with a combined storage of approximately 100 million gallons. The Department also reclaims over 30,000 million gallons of water each day for eventual discharge to the Santa Ana River.

Doug Headrick, Water Utilities Manager for the City of Redlands, will brief the Task Force on a water reclamation project that will serve his community of 75,000. The City's average daily water consumption is 20 million gallons per day (mgd) with a maximum daily of 45 mgd in the summer. The average consumption per capita is approximately 320 gallons per day. The City relies primarily on treated groundwater for its water supplies. Its water transmission and distribution pipelines range in size from 1 to 36 inches in diameter. 370 miles of pipeline are required to serve 19,000 metered domestic water connections. The Redlands service area varies in elevation from approximately 1,100 to 2,600 feet above sea level. This elevation differential requires seven major pressure zones and two sub-zones to adequately serve all consumers with reasonable water pressures.

San Gorgonio Pass Watershed: The overall outlook for growth and water supplies in the Pass Watershed will be presented by **Steve Stockton**, General Manager of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA). SGPWA is the State Water Contractor for the Watershed with an entitlement to supplemental water imports from the State Water Project. The Agency has responsibility for bringing State Project Water to the Pass Watershed and has recently begun to implement this vision.

Joe Zoba, General Manager of the Yucaipa Valley Water District, will discuss the District's outlook for growth and reliable water supplies. The District provides water, wastewater, and recycled water service to customers in the Cities of Calimesa and Yucaipa and portions of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

The Yucaipa valley is bounded by the San Bernardino National Forest to the north and east, low lying hills to the south, and the Crafton Hills to the northwest. The foothills which surround the valley range in elevation from about 2,200 feet in the south to over 8,400 feet at Oak Glen Peak in the north. The valley floor gently slopes from 2,000 feet at the beginning of Live Oak Canyon, to 3,800 feet at the highest portion of the northern bench. With groundwater as its prime source of water, the District maintains 31 wells and an extensive pipeline system to serve its agricultural and domestic customers.

Chuck Butcher, General Manager of the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Municipal Water District, will present

the water supply challenges associated with the growth occurring in the BCVMWD service area. The District historically has met the irrigation needs of agriculture but now is experiencing substantial growth in domestic use. This growth is reflected in a 50% increase in service connections in the last three years, now totaling 8,550. The current annual growth rate for new connections is now averaging 1,000. This presents a challenge for developing the water resources that will serve this growth in the District's service area. Though groundwater has been the primary source of water for BCVMWD in the past, the District has future interests in supplementing this supply with other sources of water.

Andy Schlange, General Manager of San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority, will discuss the need for coordinated groundwater management in the Pass Watershed. Without appropriate governance and management policies the Pass Watershed will be severely limited in its ability to support the new water demands created by the substantial residential growth expected in the area.

MEMORANDUM TO THE WATER POLICY TASK FORCE

April 14, 2005

TO: ***Members of the Water Policy Task Force***

FROM: ***Daniel E. Griset, Sr. Regional Planner, X895, griset@scag.ca.gov***

SUBJECT: ***Water Issues and a 2005 Revise of the Regional Comprehensive Plan***

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive for future consideration of a draft Water chapter for the Regional Comprehensive Plan at the June 9, 2005 meeting of the Task Force.

BACKGROUND:

The Regional Council has called for an update of the Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide (RCP&G), a multi-faceted document that contained two water chapters. The Water Resources chapter was adopted in December 1994. The Water Quality Chapter was adopted in January 1995.

Staff is preparing a new draft water chapter that reflects current SCAG policies and plans, as well as current regional water realities. On March 28, 2005 staff met with the Regional Comprehensive Plan Task Force for dialogue on some of these water issues. This dialogue was based on the attached staff memo that highlighted nine themes. Also presented to the Task Force was the attached inventory of policies identified in the RCP&G and Regional Transportation Plans, along with staff recommendations for policy revisions.

Attachments

- 1. Bo Cutter Memo on Item 4.2**
- 2. Staff Memo to Regional Comprehensive Plan Task Force (March 28, 2005)**
- 3. Inventory of Regional Water Policies and Mitigation Measures and Staff Recommendations for Revisions**
- 4. May 19 TMDL Workshop at the Bren School, UC Santa Barbara**

TO: SCAG WATER POLICY TASK FORCE
FROM: W. BOWMAN CUTTER
SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM 4.2
SWRCB COST ESTIMATES
DATE: APRIL 14, 2005 WATER POLICY TASK FORCE MEETING

There are now several studies and projections of stormwater costs or components of stormwater costs. Gordon et.al estimated the costs of using advanced treatment of stormwater for significant portions of Los Angeles area runoff. The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB) estimated current costs of stormwater programs in its region. We also have projections of the costs of the Los Angeles River Trash and Ballona Creek Metals TMDL. Task A of the study funded by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is along the lines of the LARWQCB study in that it attempts to estimate cities' current spending. Task B, similar in its goals to the Gordon study, attempts to project stormwater costs in L.A. County if alternatives to advanced treatment such as infiltration and source control are used.¹ With these studies, we now have a range of likely stormwater costs which should help inform the public debate over the extent of stormwater regulation. A detailed look at the findings of Task A of the SWRCB study will be presented on Thursday. The task force may want to consider a recommendation from this study for the creation and adoption of a set of uniform rules for stormwater expenditure accounting.

Because of the debate over local public costs of implementing stormwater regulations, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) decided to fund a research project to compile a snapshot of existing stormwater expenditures from six cities (Task A of the SWRCB study). The research was not intended to project stormwater costs into the future, but rather to provide an expenditure baseline for a set of cities which are currently operating good stormwater programs. Since stormwater expenditures are

¹ Task B also includes some estimates of recreation, water supply, and other benefits.

likely to rise substantially, this baseline can provide a way to measure the additional burden on local governments of implementing future stormwater regulations. The study found that existing costs are somewhat higher than previous studies had indicated. Mean costs were \$29/household (with a range of \$18-46 per household) compared to a mean of \$10/household from a previous EPA study. Further findings will be summarized in the presentation.

Throughout this project, the researchers found it difficult to define comparable expenditures across cities, even though the existence of a stormwater fund to track expenditures was a criterion for selection. In response to this difficulty, the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for this study recommends that a uniform system to account for stormwater expenditures and financing should be developed. However, the TAG recognizes that not all cities will be able or willing to implement a uniform accounting system and instead recommends a flexible approach where cities who implement a uniform stormwater expenditure accounting system would be awarded extra points when competing for statewide grant or loan funds. Widespread adoption of uniform stormwater accounting rules would be especially useful in Southern California as it would build trust by giving environmental advocates, taxpayer groups and local government officials a common set of figures for both expenditure and financing decisions. Also, it would aid decision makers in comparing the effectiveness of different programs. The Task Force could support this recommendation by working with the League of California Cities and California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) to develop a uniform set of accounting rules, and then working jointly with the SWRCB to have the rules integrated into grant funding decisions.

The SWRCB study, by computing an expenditure baseline, allows a comparison of current expenditures with projected future costs. Projected annualized costs for the Ballona Creek Metals TMDL and the L.A. River Trash TMDL are \$75/household and \$141/household respectively. Task B of the SWRCB study estimates a range of costs from \$27 to \$71 per household for solving all stormwater quality issues and the Gordon et al. study has a low-end estimate of \$459/household. The Task B authors qualify their findings with the suggestion that if advanced treatment is required; costs will be

significantly above their high-end estimates. These cost projections appear to be mostly in addition to current stormwater program costs. However, some of the costs of the Task B study are private rather than public costs.

To put these cost in perspective, total local government waste handling (sewage and solid waste) expenditures are around \$605/household in California.² Even under the lower cost scenarios, then, costs could approach a third of current waste handling expenditures. Under the more expensive scenarios, the estimated costs begin to approach or even exceed current waste handling expenditures, which seems difficult to justify. The message of these studies seems to be twofold: 1) the cost of approaches like increased infiltration and source control are likely to be significant relative to other public programs and likely to be significantly above current expenditure levels; and 2) Any substantial amount of advanced treatment would put costs at a level difficult to justify or finance.

²Sources: 2001-2002 Census of Government, U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey 2002, U.S. Census Bureau.

MEMO

TO: Regional Comprehensive Plan Task Force

FROM: Daniel E. Griset, Senior Regional Planner, griset@scag.ca.gov, (213) 236-1895

DATE: March 28, 2005

SUBJECT: Water Element of the Regional Comprehensive Plan

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Provide input to staff regarding issues to be addressed in the Water Chapter of the Regional Comprehensive Plan, and report to the Energy and Environment Committee.

SUMMARY:

Clean and reliable water in the SCAG region is essential to the future quality of life in our growing region. The projected growth in population and jobs is certain to increase the water challenges the region will face in the coming years. These challenges include the creation of environmentally sustainable communities, the management of stormwater and urban runoff pollution, interagency collaboration and initiatives within shared watersheds, the development of new local water resources and infrastructure, the expansion of current water conservation programs, the on-going availability of imported supplemental water supplies, the increased use of water markets and transfers, the development of improved water treatment technologies and the increased coordination of policy and resources among all levels of government.

Regional policies have been adopted by the Regional Council to address these challenges. These range from the Council's consideration of significant regional water issues to adopted mitigation measures identified in the Programmatic Environmental Impact Reports of past Regional Transportation Plans. In general, these policies have focused on improving regional environmental quality and best management practices, cost-effective watershed pollution controls and reliable water supplies for growing urban communities. These themes will be developed in the coming draft of the Water Chapter in the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

BACKGROUND:

These water policy and issue themes will include the following kinds of discussion:

The creation of environmentally sustainable communities: Water quality and water supply are influenced by the design elements used in planning and creating new communities. Compact development designs that reduce impervious surfaces and increase natural areas not only allow for natural runoff purification treatment, but also save stormwater for groundwater infiltration.

The management of stormwater and urban runoff pollution: Water quality regulators are issuing increasingly stringent rules to reduce local stormwater and urban runoff pollution. These regulations apply to individual jurisdictions and, by various studies, are expected to be very costly mandates for local agencies in the SCAG region. Based on SCAG's historic interest in "areawide waste treatment management

planning”, regional policy emphasizes the need for watershed-scale planning (a new way of describing “areawide planning”) and implementation of pollution control measures. This scale of environmental management is expected to bring needed improvements on a much more cost-effective basis than from individual projects in each local jurisdiction. This same approach offers Caltrans and other regional transportation agencies new ways to reduce their runoff management costs.

Interagency collaboration and initiatives within shared watersheds: Water supplies needed for future growth in the region depend on infrastructure and resource collaboration within each of the watersheds of the region. Too often the agencies that manage water supplies have restricted their planning and activities to only their own service areas, limiting their ability to plan more comprehensively. The same concerns apply to the need for collaboration among agencies impacted by water quality regulations within a watershed.

The development of new local water resources and infrastructure: Because of recent state legislation, the region’s future growth is now linked with water supplies. This growth, both infill and otherwise, will place new strains on the current water infrastructure. In some cases it will require retrofitting and replacing old systems; in others it will require extending systems to serve new customers. This infrastructure challenge ranges from system plumbing to water management practices and flexibility.

The expansion of current water conservation programs: Water conservation is an indispensable element in the ability of our growing region to achieve needed water reliability. There is a consumption parallel between agricultural water use in the state and in residential landscape irrigation: agriculture consumes about 80 percent of the state’s water supply and residential landscape irrigation consumes about 80 percent of the household water supply. New irrigation practices and technology can reduce this outside use, along with changes in plant selection that work well with native, drought-tolerant conditions. Installation of water-saving devices and appliances in new and existing residences is another important conservation opportunity.

The on-going availability of imported supplemental water supplies: Imported water supplies are increasingly constrained by competing claims and environmental considerations. These concerns raise the importance of the CalFed Bay-Delta Program, the water supply impacts from habitat and other ecological activities throughout the state and other complex management and planning issues related to the Colorado River.

The increased use of water markets and transfers: The development of markets for the transfer of water between different basins is an important factor for improving the region’s water reliability and for improving water quality in the region’s water supplies. The ability of water agencies in the region to acquire surplus water from other areas encourages the development of more ambitious groundwater storage programs and makes possible the advantages of conjunctive water use.

The development of improved water treatment technologies: Current water treatment technologies are chemical and energy-intensive. Along with pollution source controls and natural treatment systems, new technological development needs to be encouraged that reduces the heavy reliance on these factors and minimizes by-products that impair the resulting water supplies. New treatment breakthroughs can also contribute to needed increases in water reclamation and reuse throughout the region, especially in the management and use of groundwater basins.

The increased coordination of policy and resources among all levels of government: With a flexible water policy and resources infrastructure, comprehensive watershed-scale solutions and creative regional

governance, water supply and water quality challenges can be met. Cost considerations are always important in meeting these challenges, but policy and program coordination can forge influential coalitions, reduce costs and improve the potentials for success.

DOCS #108927v1

Summary of Water Policy Statements and Revision Recommendations
March 28, 2005
Regional Comprehensive Plan Task Force

	Policy Statement from 1996 Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide	Staff Revision Recommendations
1	Encourage planned development in locations least likely to cause environmental impact.	Encourage planned development to use designs that minimize structural footprints and maximize non-impervious surfaces.
2	The population, housing, and jobs forecasts, which are adopted by SCAG's Regional Council and that reflect local plans and policies, shall be used by SCAG in all phases of implementation and review.	NA
3	In areas with large seasonal population fluctuations, such as resort areas, forecast permanent populations. However, appropriate infrastructure systems should be sized to serve high season population totals.	OK
4	Encourage patterns of urban development and land use, which reduce costs on infrastructure construction and make better use of existing facilities.	OK
5	Support the protection of vital resources such as wetlands, groundwater recharge areas, woodlands, production lands, and land containing unique and endangered plants and animals.	Support the protection and expansion of open spaces such as wetlands, groundwater recharge areas, woodlands and other valuable watershed habitat.
6	Develop well-managed viable ecosystems or known habitats of rare, threatened and endangered species, including wetlands.	See 5 above.
7	Streamline water quality regulatory implementation. Identify and eliminate overlaps with other regulatory programs to reduce economic impacts on local businesses.	Encourage coordination between water quality regulations and other regulatory programs to minimize economic impacts on local agencies and businesses.
8	Encourage "watershed management" programs and strategies, recognizing the primary role of local governments in such efforts.	OK
9	Encourage opportunities for pollution reduction marketing and other market-incentive water quality programs as an alternative to strict command-and-control regulation.	OK
10	Clean up the contamination in the region's major groundwater aquifers since its water supply is critical to the long-term economic and environmental health of the region. The financing of such clean-ups should leverage state and federal resources and minimize significant impacts on the local economy.	Clean up of groundwater contamination is an essential step in developing new regional water storage, as well as improving the long-term environmental and economic health of the region. Clean up financing should leverage state and federal resources to minimize significant impacts on the local economy.
11	Encourage water reclamation throughout the region where it is cost-effective, feasible, and appropriate to reduce reliance on imported water and wastewater discharges. Current administrative impediments to increased use of wastewater should be addressed.	Encourage water reclamation throughout the region where it is a cost-effective and feasible way to reduce reliance on imported water. Impediments to the reuse of highly treated wastewater should be addressed and minimized.
12	Ensure wastewater treatment agency facility planning and facility development be consistent with population projections contained in the RCPG, while taking into account the need to build wastewater treatment facilities in cost-effective increments of capacity, the need to build well enough in advance to reliably meet unanticipated service and storm water demands, and the need to provide standby capacity for public safety and environmental protection objectives.	Encourage the planning and delivery of wastewater treatment capacity in the region that is sufficient to meet future service demands and to accommodate the treatment of urban runoff and other flows that may create water quality impairments.

	Policy Statement from 1996 Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide	Staff Revision Recommendations
13	Coordinate watershed management planning at the subregional level by (1) providing consistent regional data; (2) serving as a liaison between affected local, state, and federal watershed management agencies; and (3) ensuring that watershed planning is consistent with other planning objectives (e.g., transportation, air quality, water supply).	Encourage watershed management initiatives within the subwatersheds of the region by (1) providing appropriate regional data; (2) facilitating collaboration between local, state, and federal stakeholders; and (3) ensuring that these initiatives are consistent with other regional priorities (e.g., transportation, air quality, water supply).
14	The timing, financing, and location of public facilities, utility systems, and transportation systems shall be used by SCAG to implement the region's growth policies.	NA
15	Provide, as appropriate, legislative support and advocacy of regional water conservation, supply and water quality projects.	Provide, as appropriate, legislative and advocacy support of regional water conservation and supply projects, as well as comprehensive and cost-effective water quality initiatives.
16	Work with local jurisdictions and water quality agencies, through its Water Policy Task Force and other means, to encourage regional-scale planning for improved water quality management and pollution prevention. Future impacts to water quality shall be avoided through cooperative planning, information sharing and comprehensive pollution control measure	In conjunction with the Water Policy Task Force, support local entities and water quality agencies in creating integrated subwatershed implementation plans to improve regional water quality and prevent impairments caused by urban runoff pollution.
17	Work with local jurisdictions and water agencies, through its Water Policy Task Force and other means, including the update of the Water Quality and Water Resources chapters for SCAG's Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide, to encourage regional-scale planning for improved stormwater management and groundwater recharge. Future adverse impacts shall be avoided through cooperative planning, information sharing, and comprehensive implementation efforts within the SCAG region. SCAG's Water Policy Task Force offers an opportunity for local jurisdictions and water agencies to share information and strategies for improving regional performance in these efforts.	These points appear elsewhere in this inventory.
18	Encourage wastewater treatment agencies to have expansion plans, approvals and financing in place once their facilities are operating at 80 percent of capacity. Through the update to the Water Quality and Water Resources chapters of SCAG's Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide, SCAG shall provide opportunities for information sharing and program development.	The main points are treated elsewhere in this inventory.
19	Facilitate local water agencies' informing local jurisdictions of their continued efforts to evaluate future water demands and establish the necessary supply and infrastructure, as documented in their Urban Water Management Plans to meet projected demand in 2030.	Facilitate communications and information sharing between local entities and water agencies, as needed, in order to support the preparation of updates to Urban Water Management Plans throughout the region.
20	Facilitate information-sharing about water policy-related regional coordination throughout California and the Colorado River Basin that develops and supports sustainable growth policies.	Facilitate information sharing among local agencies to ensure that the region's reliance on external water supplies is coordinated with other water policies to support sustainable growth of the region.
21	Minimize impacts to water supply by developing incentives, education and policies to further encourage water conservation and thereby reduce demand.	Support incentives, public education and other policies that encourage residential water conservation and improve local water resources.

	Policy Statement from 1996 Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide	Staff Revision Recommendations
22	Involve the region's water supply agencies in planning efforts in order to make water resource information, such as water supply and water quality, location of recharge areas and groundwater, and other useful information available to local jurisdictions for use in their land use planning and decisions.	Provide information and other appropriate resources to water agencies and local watershed entities to support improved resource management decision making.
23	Promote water-efficient land use development.	Encourage local land use agencies to adopt water-wise development policies.
24	Develop strategies to accommodate growth that use resources efficiently, eliminate pollution and significantly reduce waste.	Encourage growth strategies that use resources efficiently, eliminate pollution and significantly reduce waste.
25	Supports plan for the historic use of surplus water to be addressed with a combination of water transfers as the result of conservation in the agricultural sectors and a reasonable wheeling cost that facilitates water transfers but does not result in cost shifting or a reduction in water service reliability for non-participating agencies.	Encourage water management policies that emphasize stewardship principles, favor responsible water transfers from agricultural to urban communities, and strengthens regional water reliability.
26	Supports only the use of the best available technology including monitoring, air, and water impacts for locating any nuclear waste facility.	NA
27	Supports Proposition 204 to secure federal funds for Delta restoration as described by CALFED.	Support a CALFED program with appropriate balances between its urban, agricultural and environmental priorities and with balanced cost sharing among the program beneficiaries.

The Bren School of Environmental Science & Management

At the University of California, Santa Barbara

Invites you to

The TMDL Program: Challenges and Solutions

Thursday, May 19, 2005 9:00am – 4:30pm

Location: Bren School of Environmental Science & Management, UCSB

Topics:

1) Determining Impairment and Success (Listing and Delisting)

- € How did we get here? The listing process in perspective
- € What is the current situation? Case studies on listing and delisting
- € What does the future look like? New guidance on listing and delisting

Presented by: Arturo A. Keller and Lindsey Cavallaro, Bren School, UCSB

2) Challenges in collecting data and using models for TMDLs

- € Case studies from the Santa Monica Bay TMDLs

Presented by: Ken Schiff, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project

3) Uncertainty and Margin of Safety

- € What are some of the sources of uncertainty? Case studies from the Santa Clara River, CA and Catawba, NC & SC
- € What is the economic impact of uncertainty in the context of a TMDL? Case study from the Lake Ellsinore & San Jacinto watershed
- € What are some approaches that can be used to determine uncertainty and focus funding to reduce it?

Presented by: Tom Meixner (economic impacts), University of Arizona, and Arturo A. Keller (sources of uncertainty) and Yi Zheng (approaches), Bren School, UCSB

4) Addressing complex chemicals: Mercury TMDLs

- € A process-oriented approach for the St. Louis River watershed, MN
- € A probabilistic approach for Cache Creek, CA

Presented by: Carl Chen and Joel Herr (St. Louis), Systech Engineering, and Bill Labiosa (Cache Creek), Stanford University

For reservations or details, contact Arturo A. Keller at keller@bren.ucsb.edu

